



OFFICE OF THE STATE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

J. Clark Kelso
Chief Information Officer

August 11, 2006

To: Agency Information Officers
Chief Information Officers
Information Security Officers

On April 18th of this year, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-04-06 directing the Office of Emergency Services to promulgate model Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government plans and guidelines for use by state and local agencies. These plans would assist them in ensuring the continuity of government and providing essential services during and after a catastrophic event. The Executive Order further specifies that “all Executive Branch agencies shall update their Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) plans consistent with the guidelines and submit them to the Cabinet Secretary and the Director of the Office of Emergency Services and include procedures for the testing and exercising of these plans.”

In an effort to create an awareness of the importance of COOP/COG planning among state agencies, the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, the State and Consumer Services Agency, and the State Chief Information Officer are hosting a special half-day event on August 31st to provide a forum for discussing the realities that organizations face when disaster strikes.

The keynote speaker will be Don Hutchinson, Director of Economic Development for the City of New Orleans and former Secretary of Economic Development for the State of Louisiana. Mr. Hutchinson was one of Mayor Nagin’s key staff during the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in New Orleans. He will provide a unique viewpoint on what occurred to both public sector and private sector organizations when the levees failed. Given the extensive levee system in the Sacramento Valley and throughout California this will be especially relevant to your planning efforts. Experts from around the country will join Mr. Hutchinson on the program.

We look forward to seeing you for this half-day event on August 31, 2006. Please encourage your Chief Deputy and lead Continuity Planner to join you at this event. Please RSVP by calling Naukiea Russell at (916) 932-1300 ext. 1306 or www.erepublic.com/continuity.

Sincerely,

J. Clark Kelso
Chief Information Officer
State of California